



PARKS, ARTS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting of March 21, 2001

City Hall Chambers

1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

New Director: Prior to the start of the meeting, Interim Director Lyles informed the Commission that the City Manager had selected Dave Brees, Recreation Services Manager for the City of Palo Alto, as the new Recreation Director who will begin work on April 16.

Role Call:

Present: Chairperson Casas, Commissioners Roeder, McGee, Lippe, Toppel, Charlton, Cooper

Absent: none

Approval of Minutes: Chairperson Casas name was mis-spelled

Public Comment:

Since several residents of the Roista neighborhood came to the meeting as well several pool supporters, in the believe that the Commission would be reviewing plans and making decisions, Mr. Lyles informed the audience that the reason the Rosita Pool was on the Agenda was mainly to inform the commission that this would be a "Business" item at the April 18 meeting. Mr. Lyles apologized for inconveniencing those attending and requested that they fill out speaker cards to insure that they received notices for the April meeting.

Commissioner Casas informed the Commission that he would not be attending the April 18 meeting. The rest of the Commission indicated they would be attending and that Vice Chair Roder would conduct the meeting.

Business:

- 1.) Public Art Program- Status report from Ad Hock Subcommittee and Staff

Mr. Lyles informed the commission that the sub-committee, comprised of Commissioners, Cooper and Charlton, had met and that it was agreed that drafting guidelines for handling sculptures in the City was more complex than what was originally envisioned since it would probably involve the role of the Commission in promoting art in the City, defining roles between Planning and Zoning and the PARC, evaluating contracts, insurance requirements etc. The Commission was provided a 1997 "Sculpture Guide" that is believed to be the last inventory of sculptures and their location. Mr. Lyles informed the Commission that the accuracy of the list needs to be varied.

2.) Recreation Department Program/Activity Time Allocation Summary

Mr. Lyles presented to the Commission a report and "Time Allocation Summary" which identified the amount of personnel time spent on department programs. He informed the Commission that he was shifting responsibilities within the department to balance workload and to cover program responsibilities of the vacant Recreation Supervisors position formerly held by Joanne Burns.

3.) CIP Status Review- A review of current parks and recreation related projects

At the request of the Commission Mr. Lyles reviewed the City's current list of CIP projects (February 28, Public Works Activity Status Report) that involved City parks. Although there was general discussion over most projects, the Commission voiced concerns over the condition of the City's playgrounds when \$207,000 was available for replacement and renovation. Commissioner Casas asked who was responsible for the project. Mr. Lyles stated he had talked to the Public Works officials and the responsible party for these type of capital projects was the Recreation Department. Mr. Lyles said he had seen a priority list in the files and at next meeting he would provide the list to the Commission. He also stated that Council was considering a joint tour of parks with the Commission and this might be a good time for the Commission to evaluate playground equipment. Mr. Lyles discussed a process that could speed up replacement of equipment whereby equipment suppliers are informed as to how much is available for each site and then they present to the Commission their proposals and cost. Commissioner Roder said she would like to help with the project. Commissioner Casas asked if the \$207,000 was sufficient to fund playground equipment upgrades. Mr. Lyles said in his opinion there was not sufficient funds to upgrade all areas and he did not know how much was needed beyond the \$207,000. After general discussion over the need to begin renovation of play equipment, Commissioner Casas made a motion that the Recreation Department submit a CIP for 2001-2003 in the amount of \$75,000. Commissioner Lippe seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Hetch Hetchy Path

Commissioner McGee gave a report to the Commission over the history of the proposed path, if built would connect from El Real to Los Altos Ave. From Los Altos Ave. the path is paved and connects to the Palo Alto section near Adobe Creek. Commissioner McGee stated if Los Altos could connect to Elcamino then there would be a continuous path leading to Stanford University. He also stated that several sections were wide enough to build a small tot lot since no City parks are in this area of town. Many young mothers are seen on the improved section with small children and a tot lot would be a good amenity along the path.

Mr. Lyles said that a CIP has been submitted for a feasibility study that would include alignment alternatives, cost, mitigating neighborhood concerns, environment review etc.

DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC INTEREST ITEMS

1. Council and PARC Tour of Parks

Mr. Lyles said he would check with the City Clerk and then get back to the commission.

2. Proposed Pool At Rosita Park

Mr. Lyles informed the Commission that at the April 18 meeting a presentation will be made over alternative location sites and also how CEQA review would be handled. The Commission commented over the need for noticing the neighborhood. Mr. Lyles stated that he would contact the City Clerk and or Planning to obtain neighborhood-mailing labels.

3. Park Inspections

Mr. Lyles stated he did not have an update over Commission questions over the Plaque at McKenzie Park and the tunnel at Shoup Park. He would meet with Park staff prior to the next meeting and update the Commission on April 18.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

Glenn Lyles, Interim Recreation Director
Liaison to the Parks, Art and Recreation Commission